8647081/2024/VIG-II-AGC01

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Servants– Cooperation Department – Allegations of demand and acceptance of bribe against Sri Tupakula Madhu, age 47 years, S/o Late T.Narayana, Assistant Registrar, O/o Sub-Divisional Cooperative Officer, Srikalahasti working on deputation in O/o District Cooperative Audit Officer, Tirupati Town, Tirupati District – Trapped on 15.02.2023 – Sanction of Prosecution – Accorded - Orders – Issued.

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AGRICULTURE & COOPERATION (VIG.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.27 **Dated:12.03.2024**

O R D E R :

WHEREAS, Sri Tupakula Madhu, Assistant Registrar, O/o Sub-Divisional Co-operative Officer, Srikalahasti worked on deputation in O/o District Cooperative Audit Officer, Tirupati Town, Tirupati District from 09.07.2019 to 15.02.2023. By virtue of the post held by him, he falls under the category of 'Public Servant' as defined U/sec. 2(c) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended by Act 16 of 2018).

2. AND WHEREAS Sri M.Purushotham Reddy, 59 years, S/o Late Krishna Reddy, C.E.O., Taduku Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society, R/o Paidipalli Village, Puttur Mandal, Tirupati District is the complainant in this case. Every year after completion of financial year, the District Cooperative Audit Officer and staff are conducting the audit for Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society. At the time of audit, they will verify the loan amounts disbursed to the farmers and recoveries from them. Audit of Thaduku Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society was conducted and completed by Sri V.Suresh Babu, Senior Inspector, O/o Sub-Divisional Cooperative Officer, Puttur for the financial year 2021-22. During the audit, he verified the Day-books, Receipts, vouchers, minutes books, loan ledgers etc. and prepared Audit Report and obtained signatures of Sri M.Purushotham Reddy and President of the Society. On 25.01.2023, Sri Tupakula Madhu, Assistant Registrar / Superintendent, District Cooperative Audit Office, Tirupati called Sri M.Purushotham Reddy from his mobile No. 9059436720 to Sri M.Purushotham Reddy's mobile No.9392574424 and informed about the Thaduku Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society test audit for the financial year 2021-22 and demanded to pay mamools for smooth audit, otherwise he has to face the problems. Sri Tupakula Madhu also asked Sri M.Purushotham Reddy to come to District Cooperative Audit Officer, Tirupati along with Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society records for test audit. Accordingly Sri M.Purushotham Reddy visited District Cooperative Audit Office, which is located in Tirupati - Renigunta road, Tirupati town and met Smt. Nagavardhana, District Cooperative Audit Officer and Sri Tupakula Madhu, Assistant Registrar / Superintendent, District Cooperative Audit Office, Tirupati on 08.02.2023 at about 11-00 A.M.. They instructed Sri M.Purushotham Reddy to get the test audit. On 09.02.2023 at about 11.30 A.M., Sri M.Purushotham Reddy along with his Staff Assistant Sri P.Venu, visited the District Cooperative Audit Officer, Tirupati along with the records, i.e. Day books, receipts and vouchers of Thaduku Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society and met Smt. Nagavardhana, District Cooperative Audit Officer and Sri Tupakula Madhu, Assistant Registrar/ Superintendent, District Cooperative Audit Office, Tirupati. Then, Sri Tupakula Madhu verified the records and asked Sri M.Purushotham Reddy to wait in the Clerks' room, as

(P.T.O.)

he wants to talk to him. After some time, while Sri M.Purushotham Reddy was waiting in the Clerks' room, Sri Tupakula Madhu came and informed that he will take care of his test audit without any problem from the District Cooperative Audit Officer and asked Sri M.Purushotham Reddy to wait outside of the office. While Sri M.Purushotham Reddy was waiting in the street, at about 1-00 P.M. Sri Tupakula Madhu came on his motor-bike and demanded that all are giving Rs.10,000/- for test audit and questioned Sri M.Purushotham Reddy that how much he can able to give. For that Sri M.Purushotham Reddy replied that he is able to give Rs.5,000/-. When Sri Tupakula Madhu asked Sri M.Purushotham Reddy when he can give that amount. Sri M.Purushotham Reddy replied that he can pay within two days. Sri Tupakula Madhu agreed for the same and went on his motor-bike. Sri M.Purushotham Reddy recorded their conversation in his redmi mobile phone. As he is not willing to pay the bribe amount, he came to the A.C.B. office, Tirupati and gave a complaint to the D.S.P., A.C.B., Tirupati and requested to take necessary action against Sri Tupakula Madhu. After following the due procedure, the D.S.P., A.C.B., Tirupati registered the said complaint as a case in Cr.No.01/RCT-TCT/2023 U/s 7 of Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 (as amended by Act 16 of 2018) on 15.02.2023 conducted Pre-Trap Proceedings in the presence of two mediators.

3. AND WHEREAS, after completion of Pre-Trap Proceedings, the trap party left the ACB office, Tirupati and successfully trapped Sri Tupakula Madhu, Assistant Registrar / Superintendent, District Cooperative Audit Office, Tirupati on 15.02.2023 at 1.55 P.M. at R.C.Puram Junction, 150 Bye-pass Road, Tirupati City, when he demanded and accepted the bribe amount of Rs.5,000/- from Sri M.Purushotham Reddy. Sri T. Madhu having assured to help Sri M.Purushotham Reddy to extend his help in the test audit, demanded and accepted bribe with his right hand while sitting on the motor cycle and kept the tainted amount in the pocket of the cover attached to the fuel tank of motor cycle. The chemical test conducted on both hands fingers of Sri Tupakula Madhu and his motor-cycle fuel tank cover yielded positive results. The tainted bribe amount of Rs.5,000/- was recovered and seized along with chemical solution bottles, cotton swab, sample sodium carbonate powder and fuel tank cover of motor-cycle of Sri Tupakula Madhu. The D.S.P, ACB, Tirupati also seized the official favour file i.e. the records pertaining to the Test Audit of Thaduku Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society, Puttur Mandal. The D.S.P., ACB, Tirupati incorporated the versions of Sri Tupakula Madhu and Sri M.Purushotham Reddy in the Post-Trap Proceedings drafted by the mediators. The D.S.P, ACB got prepared the Rough-Sketch of scenes of offence with vantage positions. After observing all legal formalities, the D.S.P., ACB, Tirupati arrested Sri Tupakula Madhu on 16.02.2023 at 10.30 hrs and sent him to the Hon'ble Special Judge Court for SPE & ACB Cases, Nellore for judicial remand.

4. AND WHEREAS, the Hon'ble Special Judge for SPE & ACB Cases, Nellore, who on considering the material available on record, remanded Sri Tupakula Madhu, Assistant Registrar to judicial custody. Later, the D.S.P, ACB examined the witnesses and recorded their statements. The statement of Sri M. Purushotham Reddy recorded under Sec.164 Cr.PC by Hon'ble 4th AJFCM, Tirupati. Subsequently, the Inspector, ACB conducted further investigation and issued notice to Sri Tupakula Madhu, Assistant Registrar calling his explanation. Sri Tupakula Madhu, Assistant Registrar submitted his explanation which is not worth of credence.

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5. AND WHEREAS, the above said acts of Sri Tupakula Madhu, Assistant Registrar, O/o Sub-Divisional Cooperative Officer, Srikalahasti working on deputation in O/o District Co-operative Audit Officer, Tirupati Town, Tirupati District constitute an offence punishable U/sec. 7 of Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 (as amended by Act 16 of 2018).

6. AND WHEREAS, the Government of Andhra Pradesh being the authority competent to remove Sri Tupakula Madhu, Assistant Registrar, O/o Sub-Divisional Co-Operative Officer, Srikalahasti working on deputation in O/o District Co-operative Audit Officer, Tirupati Town, Tirupati District from service, after fully and carefully examining material (i.e. copy of FIR, Mediators' reports, Final Report containing statements of witnesses, contents of seized documents explanation of Sri Tupakula Madhu) placed before them in respect of the said allegations, considered that Sri Tupakula Madhu, Assistant Registrar, O/o Sub-Divisional Co-Operative Officer, Srikalahasti worked on deputation in O/o District Co-operative Audit Officer, Tirupati Town, Tirupati District should be prosecuted in a court of law.

7. Now, therefore in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (b) of Sub-Section (1) of Section 19 of the Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 (as amended by Act 16 of 2018), the Government of Andhra Pradesh hereby accord sanction for the prosecution of Sri Tupakula Madhu, formerly Assistant Registrar, O/o Sub-Divisional Cooperative Officer, Srikalahasti worked on deputation in O/o District Co-operative Audit Officer, Tirupati Town, Tirupati District for the offences punishable under section 7 of Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 (as amended by Act 16 of 2018) and for any other cognate offence punishable under any other provisions of law for the time being in force in respect of the afore said acts and for taking cognizance of said offences by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

(BABU A)
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

12/3/2024

Secretary to Government
(Marketing & Co-operation)
Agriculture & Co-operation Department
A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi.

To
The Director General,
Anti- Corruption Bureau,
Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada.